

to the Lake of Lucerne and the high region around Andermatt, the other the valley of the Rhone north and east of its great bend at Martigny.

The first monograph, after describing the geography, geology, soils, and climate of Uri, proceeds to a discussion of the forests, including their prehistoric or normal altitudinal limits, the present tree-line, the nine forest types (mostly coniferous), and the agricultural and industrial practices which are affecting the forests today. This is followed by a similar discussion of the pastures and meadows and of the comparatively limited areas of arable land.

The second monograph is more strictly botanical in nature. Nearly two hundred pages are used to describe the environment and the floristics of the region. The vegetation is then classified into groups based on the form or habits of the component species, the three chief divisions being the floating vegetation or plankton, the adnate vegetation of algae, mosses, and lichens, and the rooting vegetation. The latter is in turn divided essentially in accordance with Raunkiaer's well known principles into hydrophytia, helophytia, geophytia (including annuals and cultivated plants), hemicryptophytia (meadows and other herbaceous associations), chamaephytia (heaths), and phanerophytia (forests and shrub-associations). The monograph closes with about twenty pages discussing successional relations.

Both monographs are effectively illustrated and accompanied by maps of the vegetation on a scale of 1 to 50,000. These are superposed on the regular Swiss topographic maps, showing towns, roads, and contours, and so become a Baedeker for any botanical tourist in these parts of Switzerland.

H. A. GLEASON.

#### DREWITT'S LATIN NAMES OF COMMON PLANTS\*

In the preface the author explains that the object of the book is "to get at a reasonable pronunciation of the Latin names of some familiar flowers and, when possible, their interesting derivations and history." After a short introduction giving the rules of Latin pronunciation, there are notes on the "name-givers,"—

\* F. Dawtry Drewitt. *Latin Names of Common Plants, their Pronunciation and History.* 68 pages. H. F. & G. Witherby, London, 1927.

Dioscorides, Pliny and Linnaeus. Most of the book is occupied with a list of common cultivated flowers whose generic names are also the common names or are commonly used by gardeners. For each of these the correct pronunciation is discussed and some notes given as to the origin and meaning of the name. In most cases the pronunciation given is that commonly used by botanists, in a few cases they are different from those in use. Frequent references are made to Sargeant's Pronunciation of English Words derived from the Latin, to the New Oxford Dictionary and to the Imperial and Webster's Dictionaries. The names are not arranged alphabetically nor according to any system of classification, but a full index remedies what would otherwise be a serious defect.

As an indication of the pronunciations and of the clearness with which they are explained a few samples may be given:—"Chrysanthemum, the *y* is long as in cry, not short as in crystal." "Clematis—the popular pronunciation cannot be changed. But in the full Latin name the *e* might be emphasized, Cle'-matis." "Dahlia. In 1804 it was introduced into England by Lord Holland—Macaulay's Lord Holland. The writer has good authority for saying that at Holland House, the name was always given its correct pronunciation Darlea." "Heliotrope,—readers will probably agree that—in heliotrope *he* shall not be degraded into *hel*." "Lilium, the letter *i* in the first syllable is long, and should be pronounced by those who use the classical pronunciation Li-lium, not Lilly-um." "Rhus. The Latin name is Rhus, rhyming with *moose*." Just what the need or value of such a book is it would be difficult to say. The number of plants listed, 69, is not sufficient to make it of value as a dictionary of plant names. But the references to origins of the names, the mythology, the remarks regarding habits or structures will surely give an hour or two of pleasure to all lovers of garden flowers. It is a friendly little book, well printed and simply bound in board covers, revealing throughout the author's affection for the plants.

G. T. HASTINGS.

### MISS ANNIE LORENZ

The numerous friends of Miss Annie Lorenz were greatly shocked and grieved to learn last summer of her untimely death,